situations of common activity and co-operation with the person towards whom he is feeling love and trust, whilst the possibility of expressing his hostility to another in safety gives him the chance of testing out his aggressive and retribution phantasies in reality, and thus lessening their hold upon him. It is the fact that he hates the very person whom he loves which is a nuclear source of difficulty, and any real situation which relieves this inner tension by separating these opposing tendencies and allowing them to find real expression towards separate people helps the growth of his power to deal with reality as well as his control of the impulses themselves.

(b) The mechanism of displacement is a constant element in the child's relations with all the adults whom he meets. All his varied emotions towards his parents, of whatever quality or degree of intensity, may be directed in turn or together on to other grown-ups, according to the situation of the moment. By this diffusion of feeling, the intensity of the child's emotions towards his parents themselves is gradually lessened. Just in so far as his world widens beyond them, so that they cease to fill it completely for him, his feelings towards them will become more manageable.

These two ways of lessening the intensity of his emotions towards his parents occur in the experience of most children in ordinary life, not only with those who go to a nursery school. Aunts and uncles, servants, nurses and governesses, and the ordinary friends of their parents, indeed even the people the child meets in the street or the shops, serve to deflect and diffuse the central emotions, thus enabling him to master and temper them.

(9) The same processes of displacement and the splitting of

ambivalent feelings occur in the child's relation to other children, as we saw in considerable detail when discussing the appropriate data. The child's initial fear and hostility towards other children as potential rivals are lessened in intensity by the diffusion of his feelings over a larger number, so that he becomes less emotionally dependent upon any one playmate. And his primary aggression is turned outwards, away from his own immediate group of family or friends, to other groups, who can be openly and safely acknowledged as rivals. With the younger children, the particular " enemies " will vary from occasion to occasion, but these situations gradually